# NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

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## NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

[We copy the following from the Genesee Farmer, not because we approve the plan of plowing recommended, though, for aught we know, all that is advanced in favor of it may be true; but because the article contains some views on the *effects* of plowing, and the nourishment of plants, which appear to us sound and true:]

### PLOWING.

We spent an evening, not long since, in company with a very intelligent practical and scientific farmer, who was discussing with his son the subject of *plowing*, which incidentally brought under review a variety of topics of great interest in the art of cultivating the soil. The son advocated the propriety of turning the earth by the plow directly bottom upwards, so as to present a smooth and even surface when the work is done. It was urged that this method had the merit of killing all grass and weeds better than any other that can be adopted. [And is not such *the fact?*—N. E. FAR.]

The father thought differently, and drew with a pencil, in illustration of his views, a diagram representing furrows seven inches deep and fourteen wide, lapping the edge of one on to the next only two inches. By this process, he said, you expose to the decomposing and mellowing influence of the air, *fifty inches of surface*, to evers inch in length of each furrow.

*Son.*—I don't understand how that can happen, seeing that the furrow is only fourteen inches wide. Will you explain?

*Father.*—Certainly. As each furrow laps but two inches on the upturned surface of the preceding one, it is plain that twelve inches of each sod will be exposed to the air. Then you have seven inches more at the end of the furrow, being the depth at which the plow was driven—making nineteen inches exposed on the upper side. On the under side, you have seven inches at the other end of the furrow, twelve on that which has been turned over, and twelve inches more on the bottom from which the sod or earth has been lifted. This gives a surface of thirtyone inches below, and altogether a surface of fifty inches. [Some, we supect, will be disposed to ask, *how much* this "surface of 31 inches below," *can be affected by the atmosphere*, provided the furrows are well turned and well lapped.—N. E. FAR.] If you do not count the laps anything, (and they are only two inches,) then, by plowing after my plan, you get three surfaces of fourteen inches each, beside two of seven inches each, at the ends of the furrow, in the place of *one surface only*, of fourteen inches, when you turn each furrow upside down.

*S.*—I concede that you get about three times as much surface exposed to the atmosphere by your system, as is attainable by mine. Nevertheless, you must admit, that on dry, gravelly soils, it is important to keep the earth as compact as possible. Under such circumstances, is not my plan better than yours?

*F.*—On loose sandy, or gravelly soils, the portion of earth raised by the plow, will not hold together in the manner I have indicated. If it has turf and compactness enough to lie up at the angle and in the manner I have spoken of, it will be better to have it so than otherwise. If the ground is too loose and porous at the time of seeding, the roller can be, and should be, applied.

*S.*—I see that you understand the subject of plowing much better than I do; and I should be happy to learn what the mere drawing of a plow through a field, and thus breaking up the soil, *adds to it*, or *takes away from it*, so that crops should grow in the one case, and not in the other?

*F.*—This question strikes at the root of the art of culture, and can only be answered by calling to our assistance the light of modern science. That the thorough stirring of the soil to a considerable depth, either with plow, harrow, cultivator or spade, is extremely beneficial to all cultivated plants, is a fact which was settled thousands of years ago, and has ever since been verified, by all practice and experience. Whether the earth be stirred with a clam-shell, a wooden stick, or an iron plow, nothing is thereby added directly to the soil. The important results that follow, are all purely chemical changes in the combinations of matter, a knowledge of which is of incalculable value to the practical farmer.

*S.*—What are the changes in the ingredients of the surface of the earth, which supply plants with much additional food, when the soil is well pulverized by the skilful use of rural implements?

*F.*—As a key to these mutations, you must ever bear in mind these two facts: First, that no *undissolved* earthy substance can enter the minute pores in the roots of plants to nourish them. All such solid food must be dissolved in water, to be available. Secondly—that when earthy substances like common salt, the salts of lime, potash, silica, &c., are dissolved, no mere filter like the soil, or a barrel of wood-ashes put up to leach, can prevent *salt water* from running away from the roots of plants, and thus at once depriving them of their proper nourishment, and robbing the soil of its fertilizing elements.

*S.*—Let me fully understand what you mean. Do you say that, all solid matter in the earth must be dissolved in water before it can pass through the very small tubes in plants; and when solids are dissolved, they are prone to pass with water deep into the subsoil, and into ditches, brooks, and ultimately into the ocean?

*F.*—Yes. The water that falls from the clouds in rain and snow, and passes no more than twelve or fifteen inches into the surface of the earth, and then runs into creeks and rivers, takes with it in solution, some of the earthy salts used by cultivated plants in organizing their living tissues. If a field be plowed and harrowed repeatedly, at short intervals, and nothing allowed to grow upon it, its cultivation will impoverish it, by increasing the solution, and the washing away of the mineral elements of all crops.

*S.*—What evidence have you that soluble salts like those in the dung and urine of animals, guano, and other fertilizers, pass with rain-water through the surface soil, and into brooks and ditches?

*F.*—Common salt applied to land at the rate of only three bushels per acre, has been found in the water of ditches after a rain, that fell soon after the salt was sown. Any soluble salt placed on a barrel filled with leached ashes or soil, and then dissolved with water, will pass through the earth, and come out at the bottom like ley. Coloring matter, like that in the liquid which flows from dung heaps, may be separated by a good filter, but the salt in brine cannot.

*S.*—What practical inference do you draw from the several facts you have stated?

*F.*—First, that all soluble minerals, like salt, ashes, lime, guano, and stable manure, should be applied as close to the mouths (or spongioles in the roots) of plants, as possible. Secondly, that a sound judgment must be exercised to avoid commencing too soon to plow, harrow, and otherwise stir the soil for a future wheat, corn, or other crop.

*S.*—What salts are most likely to be lacking in ordinary soils, which are needed in forming grain and root crops?

*F.*—They are the soluble salts of potash, soda, magnesia, and lime; being sulphates, phosphates, carbonates, silicates, and chlorides of those bases.

*S.*—What articles will cheaply supply these mineral substances?

*F.*—Unleached wood-ashes, lime, salt, plaster, and bones. Plants that have long tap-roots, like clover, aided by a little gypsum, lime, and wood-ashes, together with deep plowing, can do much to fertilize a poor soil, by drawing many important minerals from a greater depth in the soil than the roots of wheat, &c. can penetrate.

### GARDEN CROPS.

*Carrots, Parsnips, and Beets.*—To secure an early supply of these roots, you must sow and plant as soon as the soil is fit. Manure either with well rotted manure, or a compost in which there is no long manure. They each thrive best in a loamy soil. The ground should be carefully and deeply dug, and thoroughly pulverized by repeated rakings. Make your drills 2 feet apart, and drop the seed about 6 inches apart; cover and press the earth around them. Before sowing the carrot seed, rub them well between your hands and mix them with dry sand, to make them separate easily.

*Early Turnips.*—As soon as the ground is dry enough, select a deep loam, and make a compost of—well rotted manure, 4 parts; good rich mould, 3 parts, and 1 part ashes: mix it thoroughly, then divide it into equal parts; spread one-half on your bed, dig it in, and pulverize by thorough raking: then spread the remaining half, rake that in, and then sow the seed, raking it in lightly, and finish by pressing the ground with a board, or garden roller. The seed before sown, should be soaked in fish-oil (or tanners' oil) for 12 hours, drained and dried in ashes or plaster: (this is to secure the young plants from the fly.) Your seed being in, sow over your bed a mixture of equal parts of lime and ashes.—*Amer. Far.*

"If you would find pearls you must dive *deep*." So in farming: you must plow *deep* to find treasure.

From the N. Y. Farmer and Mechanic.

## N. Y. FARMERS' CLUB.

*April 21st*, 1846.—Judge Livingston in the chair. About one hundred members present.

Mr Meigs read a communication from an intelligent member who is absent, on the care and feed of cattle.

*Judge Van Wyck.*—This question, the keeping of cattle, ought to be considered here in reference to our whole country. And the first study is economy. The cost of labor always weighs heavily on the farmer: it is an incubus on all his operations. It requires great economy to make both ends of the year meet. I think grazing is the most profitable business, and it costs not more than half the labor of general farming. A farmer can do much with the labor of himself and family alone. If he hires a proper hand he must pay him $100 in money and board him at the cost of another $100. If he has 200 acres of land, and can get it in fit condition as to grasses, &c., he and his family can take care of his forty cattle and cows. Some persons prefer the soiling system, others grazing. I think the latter is best, if things are in proper order. Soiling requires rich grasses, and the culture of root crops, although a smaller number of acres will suffice. In grazing, cattle have the benefit of pure, open air; while in soiling they are necessarily too much confined. As to manure, that dropped in the grass by cattle in grazing, was not lost by evaporation: part of its value sinks into the soil, and the residue becomes mixed in with the soil; and the theoretical as well as the practical men admit that the best manure is that which is found on the field, the product of the decomposed grasses, returning like for like—and this course runs through all nature. In a densely populated country, soiling may be proper, or even necessary. Our best grazing farmers raise few cattle, but buy them from droves from the West, fatten them for market, sell them in the months of August and September, and they often double their money (if not more,) in this operation.

*Dr. Gardner.*—How far from the city will this plan do? and what is the land worth?

*Judge Van Wyck.*—Any where between this and Albany, on proper lands; and the lands are worth from $75 to $100.

*Mr Hyde.*—Will not this question turn on the value of hay?

*Judge Van Wyck.*—The farmers I speak of are judicious practical men, whose system is to feed up all their hay on their farms. They feed their cattle well. A cow in winter must have her feed, rich and plenty, and then she pays well in her milk. The cow need not be fat enough for killing, but she must have good flesh: she must have as much hay and cornstalks as she will eat, and roots too—sugar beets, parsnips or carrots. These all put her in the best condition for milk.

*Mr Hyde.*—I have found mangel wurtzel one of the best root crops.

*Mr Allen.*—I wish to raise one subject more directed to the appetite than to the conscience. It is a fine *ham* from Boston, to be tasted by this Club.

Mr Wakeman stated that through the attention of Mr Cowdin, U. S. Consul at Glasgow—a worthy member of the American Institute—the public attention has been called to the introduction of Indian corn into Great Britain. Too much praise cannot be awarded to Mr Cowdin for the deep interest he has taken in this subject. Invitations were lately extended by him to a large number of gentlemen of Glasgow, to an entertainment at his house, for the purpose of bringing under their notice bread made in a variety of ways from Indian corn or Maize. To convince the company that Indian corn meal was well adapted not only for the use of the poor and the middle class, but also for the opulent, several loaves were cut and distributed among the gentlemen. The corn meal of which they were composed, cost 2 1-2 cents per pound, while wheat flour cost four cents, giving near two loaves of corn bread to one of wheat. The company afterwards partook of a pudding, composed of corn meal, suet and molasses. The bread was pronounced good—the pudding excellent.

At his request the following analysis of Indian corn has been made by Dr. R. D. Thompson, of Glasgow, one of the most distinguished chemists of the present day:

| | Nitrogen per cent. | Albumen. | Equivalent. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bean meal, | 4.61 | 28.81 | 100 |
| Brown bread (Prussian) | 2.68 | 16.49 | 174 |
| Maize, (Ind. corn,) | 1.98 | 12.37 | 232 |
| Lothian flour, | 1.96 | 12.30 | 234 |
| Barley, | 1.96 | 12.25 | 235 |
| Indian rice, | 1.43 | 8.94 | 310 |

He says it appears that 100 lbs. of Beans are equal in nutritive power to 174 of Prussian brown bread and to 232 of Maize. It is interesting, however, to observe the elevated position occupied by Indian corn in the table—even ranking above Scotch flour.

*Dr. Gardner.*—An analysis made by Dana, of Massachusetts, is, I see, identical with this of Prof. Thompson. Few kinds of wheat contain more albumen (the flesh-making element) than corn does, which also contains the fattening elements. In the Farmer's Dictionary, edited by me, (a copy of which I have the honor of handing to the Club, as a present from the Messrs. Harper, the publishers of it,) I refer to Boussingault's analysis of Indian corn. He states that as food for man it is as 108 to 100 of the best wheat, and as 108 to 107 of common wheat.

*Mr Wakeman.*—I move for a committee to analyze corn and report to the Club. Carried—and Messrs. Chilton, Mapes, and Gardner were unanimously chosen.

On motion of Mr Allen, the Club resolved itself into an informal committee, for the examination of the Boston ham. Out of every mouth into which a slice of that superior ham entered, was heard the word "excellent." Mr Allen will at the next meeting give the full account of its curing, &c.

[The above is only an abstract of the conversation at the meeting. The Club is one of the most useful agricultural associations ever instituted. It is an honor to its founders and to the city of New York.—*N. E. Far.*]

## A FARMER'S LIFE.

I wish I could see in all farmers a disposition to magnify their calling; but I have been grieved in many a farm house, to listen to lamentations over what they termed their "hard lot." I have heard the residents upon a noble farm, all paid for, talk about drudgery, and never having their work done, and few or no opportunities for the children; and I have especially been sorry to hear the females lament over the hard fate of some promising youth of seventeen or eighteen, who was admirably filling up his duties, and training himself for extensive usefulness and influence. They have made comparison between his situation—coarsely clad and working hard—and that of some college cousin or young man who has clerked it in a store, till the boy has become dissatisfied, and begged off from his true interests and happiness.

I am conversant with no truer scenes of enjoyment than I have witnessed in American farmhouses, and even log cabins, where the father, under the influence of enlightened Christianity and sound views of life, has gone with his family, and taken up his abode in the woods. The land is his own, and he has every inducement to improve it; he finds a healthy employment for himself and family, and is never at a loss for material to occupy his mind. I do not think the physician has more occasion for research than the farmer; the proper food of vegetables and animals will alone constitute a wide and lasting field of investigation.

If the establishment of agricultural societies and exhibitions, should have the effect of stimulating one farmer in every town to manage his land and stock upon the *best* principles of husbandry, there would be a wonderful and speedy alteration in the products of the earth, because comparison would force itself upon his friends and neighbors, and his example would be certainly beneficial, for prejudice itself will give way to profit.—*Rev. Mr Choules's Address.*

From the Boston Cultivator.

## MILDEW AN EFFECT.

*Messrs. Editors*—Your correspondent who has so often advocated in your columns the new doctrine of Blight, showing it is the *effect* of disease, and not the primary cause, will be gratified to learn that such has been the opinion of the first men in the country, and amongst the rest, of Timothy Pickering, who, forty years ago, sent to the agricultural press, an article copied from a Boston newspaper of the year 1768, which seems to set the matter at rest. I pray you insert it in your useful miscellany, and oblige A Constant Reader.

"Perceiving that there are a great variety of opinions about the nature and cause of mildew, and desirous to contribute my mite towards any useful discovery, I venture to give my opinion, founded on such observations as to fully satisfy myself, as it appears perfectly to correspond with facts, and in a natural way to account for every appearance and effect in this disorder in grain. My fixed opinion then is, that the powder which forms the *rust* in grain, called mildew, is the extravasated juice of the plants, dried by the sun upon the stalk; and my reasons are these:

1st. The grain, we see, receives no nourishment after it is violently struck.

2d. On a careful inspection, it appears that some of these rusty blisters are actually under the outer coat or skin of the stalk, and do not appear to have any communication from without.

3d. Mr Tibbet, with a good microscope, actually saw the juice issuing from the small openings, over which he still perceived some pieces of the membrane, which imperfectly covered them. This last must give occular demonstration, but the two former satisfy me: the second, especially, appears demonstrative.

The true *cause* of this extravasation is next to be inquired into, and I take it to be this. A sudden obstruction of the juices of the plant by a very cool night, after several days and nights of very warm weather. Thus, by a continued heat, the earth is warmed to a great degree, and all nature is invigorated. This occasions a quick ascent of the juic e

so that every vessel is full, when a sudden cold ensuing at this critical season, chills the tender stalk, and most where it is tenderest, and then brings on a stagnation; but the earth being deeply warmed by the long and intense heat, not cooling so soon as the stalk, the violent ascent of the juices continues as before; and if there be an obstruction above in the slenderest part of the stalk, what can be the consequence of this, but extravasation, or the bursting of the sap vessels?

That, in fact, mildews in New England always come after intense and continued heat, I am sure, from near 40 years observation, and from these symptoms, I have often known a mildew prognosticated by observing persons, the evening preceding. Such a cold atmosphere, succeeding heat, every man knows will occasion a great dew, and this, no doubt, is the reason why this rust has been ascribed to the dew, and called meldew, or mildew. I suppose it was the cold, properly speaking, which occasioned both; and that the dew had no other effect in occasioning the rust, than as by hanging on the stalk it may increase the chill. Another fact confirms this hypothesis. The thin leaves and tenderest parts of the stalk, are always first affected, the spots appearing first just below the ear; for here the stalk being smallest, and the vessels narrowest, is the first stoppage by the chill, as might be expected. And accordingly, just below this, the first eruption appears, and then lower and lower, until, without relief, it covers the whole, and entirely ruins the grain, if not already filled or ripened."

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From the N. Y. Farmer and Mechanic.

## CULTIVATION OF CARROTS.

Root crops are becoming annually of more importance to our farmers; and the carrot should stand among the first. Its large yield, its various uses for feeding stock, and its good keeping qualities, all entitle it to this rank.

If we examine the tables of the chemist, in which the amount of nutritive matter contained in different substances are given, we are surprised to find the various roots occupying so low a place, in comparison with the hay and grains. The *amount* of nutriment in them is doubtless given correctly. But is their relative value as food? When fed with hay and straw, do they not so assist in digestion, that their value becomes much greater than those tables would indicate? May not some of them, as the carrot, exert on the system what is called in medicine, a specific influence, by which its value is increased? In no other way can we account for the value attached to this root by practical men. We are repeatedly told that they are equal to oats for horses. My own observation has convinced me that as a partial substitute they are very valuable. They appear to assist in the perfect digestion of the remaining food, and render that more capable of assimilation: for supposing all the nutriment they contain to be assimilated, and supposing them to have no other influence, it would be very difficult to reconcile these two contending classes of facts.

Their cultivation being usually considered more difficult than most other roots, I will give the plan which with few variations, I have adopted successfully for several years. The past season I obtained 236 bushels from 35 rods of ground, being at the rate of 1100 bushels to the acre, the best half yielding at the rate of over 1200 bushels.

I prepared my ground, which had yielded beets and ruta bagas the previous season, by plowing in 12 inches deep 20 loads per acre of half-rotted barn-yard manure, as early as the ground was in working condition. When it had dried a little it was harrowed, then lightly cross-plowed, so as not to disturb the manure; then thrown into ridges, running north and south 3 feet from centre to centre, by turning two furrows together; the lumps of manure and earth were then raked into the hollows by raking lengthwise, leaving the ridges about 18 inches wide on top end very mellow. I then made two drills about 12 inches apart, on the top of each ridge with an instrument like a rake with two large teeth. The seeds were then dropped by hand and covered with a rake head.

The seeds, raised by myself from selected roots, were of the violet and yellow mixed, and the white. The white did not yield as well as the others, seeming to be more affected by the drought. My seed 3 lbs. to the acre (2 lbs. is sufficient,) was prepared by steeping twelve hours, in water poured on boiling hot: 9 ounces of guano being added as soon as cold; then rolled in plaster and ashes, and as the weather was unfavorable for sowing, they were kept four days in the cellar, Thus prepared, they came up before the weeds, healthy and green. Two careful hoeings, weedings and thinnings, with a partial one, were all that were needed. They were allowed to stand about 4 inches apart in the rows.

The soil was loamy, with a tenacious subsoil. The plan of sowing on ridges might not answer as well in a very dry, sandy soil; but the manner in which they endured the extreme drought which came on while they were very small, would indicate that a dry situation is the best for them.

They will continue to grow till the ground freezes, and early sowing is necessary to obtain very large roots. They will bear as much frost as the turnip, and it is probable that the yellow varieties might safely be left in the ground all winter, as I have often found them in the spring, when overlooked in the fall. The white ones grow out of ground 2 or 3 inches.

When pulled, which is easily done by loosening the earth near them with a spade or fork, all the tops must be removed, and the roots stored in a cool cellar. I imagine that most of the complaints of roots heating in cellars, arise from the tops being imperfectly removed, for I have been in the habit annually of storing several hundred bushels of roots in the house cellar without any bad odor arising from any of them. By thorough ventilation, in the clear days of November, I reduce the temperature of the cellar, as far as can be done safely, then close up for the winter, and very little alteration takes place in apples or roots until spring. Now, (early in March,) we have white turnips, winter squashes, and pumpkins nearly as good as in the fall. T. S. G.

*West Cornwall, Ct.*

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"I see in this world," said Bishop Newton, "two heaps—one of human happiness and one of misery: now, if I can take but the smallest bit from the second heap, and add to the first, I carry a point. If, as I go home, a child has dropped a half penny, and if by giving it another I can wipe away its tears, I feel that I have done something. I should be glad, indeed, to do *great* things, but I will not neglect such little ones as this."

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Set out shade trees, and induce your neighbors to do likewise.

## PUBLIC SPIRIT.

[Every man in every village may take the following hints as being addressed to himself. They are given by Rev. H. W. Beecher, of the Western Farmer and Gardener:]

*Protect Public Property.*—What if it does concern every body else as much as it does you? Some one ought to see that fences about the square or common are kept in repair. Some one ought to save the trees from cattle. Some one ought to have things in such trim as that the inhabitants can be proud of their own town. Pride is not decent when there is nothing to be proud of; but when things are worthy of it, no man can be decent who is devoid of a proper pride. The church, the school-house, fences, trees, bridges, roads, public squares, side-walks—these are things which tell tales about people. A stranger can hardly think well of a place in which the distinction between the house and the hog-sty is not obvious; in which every one is lazy when greediness does not excite him, and where general indolence leaves no time to think of the public good.

When politicians are apparently on the point of dissolving, in the very fervent heat of their love for the public, it would recover the fainting soul quicker than hartshorn or vinegar to ask them—Did you ever set out a shade tree in the street? Did you ever take an hour's pains about your own village? Have you secured it a lyceum? Have you watched over its schools? Have you aided in any arrangements for the relief of the poor? Have you shown any *practical* zeal for good roads, good bridges, good side-walks, good school-houses, good churches? Have the young men in your place a public library?

If the question were put to many distinguished village patriots, what have you done for the public good?—the answer would be, "Why, I've talked till I'm hoarse, and an ungrateful public refuse me any office by which I may show my love for public interests in a more practical manner."

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## SUBSOIL PLOW.

I was glad to notice an article in your last paper, calling the attention of farmers to the use of the subsoil plow, which is regarded as one of the greatest improvements, touching the interests of the farmer, in modern times. The effect of it is not, as some suppose, to bring to the top of the ground the light soil from beneath, but to loosen and pulverize the under soil to the depth of from 15 to 18 inches, giving opportunity for the roots of corn and other plants to penetrate deep in dry seasons in pursuit of moisture, and in wet seasons for the water to drain off.

It has been estimated by many persons in Massachusetts, who have tested the instrument, that land pulverized with a subsoil plow does not require more than half the usual amount of dressing. The farmers in Maine are beginning to furnish themselves with this modern invention, and will, I doubt not, very soon introduce it into general use. I have made a beginning, having stirred up about 4 acres to the depth of 18 inches, which, I trust, will make me suitable returns at harvest time.—*C., in Maine Far.*

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*Caution.*—Two children in Brunswick, Me., were recently poisoned by eating the roots of the American hemlock, which they found in a brook. Medical aid was immediately called, and the little sufferers are expected to recover.

From the London Gardener's Chronicle.

## PROPER AND IMPROPER MANAGEMENT OF FRUIT TREES.

Although the attention of almost everybody concerned in horticulture, has of late years been drawn to the unfruitfulness and decline of their trees, still the evil does not seem to be cured; sterility and canker characterize many a costly garden; death annually produces large patches of bare wall; these are filled by young and healthy plants, which in the course of a year or two betray all the symptoms of approaching disease, and this kind of filling goes on year after year with the same success.

Let us examine a little into this matter. Newly formed gardens are for the most part, comparatively productive. The fruit trees grow and thrive luxuriantly, and this continues for some years before any sign of unhealthiness presents itself. And why is this? The answer is obvious: the roots have been rambling amongst open and fresh trenched soil, where the sun has some influence: hence, healthy and vigorous action proceeds for some time. The fruit produced is generally of excellent quality—and why should this not continue so? Our answer is, that under good gardening it does.

No gardener thoroughly initiated in the practical part of his profession, now thinks of digging a hole as if he was in search of a spring, and of thrusting the roots of a tree of any kind two or three feet under the surface of soil embedded in manure: such an one would as soon think of planting the head downwards, because he well knows that the result would be pretty nearly similar. How can it be supposed that trees thus circumstanced can continue long to exist, much more thrive and bear fruit? The roots soon get beyond the loose soil, penetrate the subsoil, and are immediately out of the reach of atmospheric influences, and that too in a material containing none of the elements likely to cause fruitfulness; and this subsoil, moreover, may be wet—a circumstance not quite so apparent to our eyesight as the barrenness of our trees and the nakedness of our walls. Supposing, however, that the bottom of the land is not wet, and that the subsoil is naturally dry, the trees notwithstanding, remain as unhealthy and as unproductive as if it were so. Gardeners who know what they are about, know well that subsoil of any kind, whether it is clay, gravel, sand, or fine loam, is not the place for the roots of trees to grow in.

We know of many gardens which were wet, and the soil naturally retentive, which, by perseverance and skill, have been rendered productive and fruitful to an astonishing extent. The first step to accomplish this was to drain the ground efficiently, then to expose the soil to the action of the elements, tumbling it about in right earnest, and occasionally adding small quantities of sand and other correctives; thus, in a very short period, peaches, pears, and in fact, all kinds of fruit, have been produced in the highest perfection, where willows and alders alone could maintain a footing.

It is marvellous what great results good gardening will accomplish. How many evils which had long appeared insuperable, will disappear under skilful superintendence boldy carried out. We are convinced that half the gardens in the country, which are in a state bordering upon absolute barrenness, may either be completely cured, or at least, to a very great extent, rendered fruitful by the adoption of vigorous and well matured measures; and the everlasting cry of bad soil, bad situation, too frequently the result of bad management, will be entirely done away with.

If it is worth while to possess a garden at all, it is surely worth a consideration whether or not it shall remain an unproductive waste. That from which most is expected, is often the least productive; not for the want of manure, perhaps, but from ignorance of the principles necessary to productiveness. Every investigation of the subject will bring us to understand more perfectly the absolute necessity of complete drainage, and next to that, complete trenching, instead of having a hard solid mass, as impenetrable to air as to the roots of trees. —*One who has Handled the Spade.*

## NEW VEGETABLE FOOD.

I fully concur in the facts mentioned by Mr P. Mackenzie, in respect to the *bloom tops of Rhubarb* being a useful article in cookery. Before Mr Forsyth paid me a visit, I had made it a rule to cut off and destroy the blooming stalks of rhubarb, pretty early after they had appeared, considering them as likely to rob the other parts of the plant: not so now, however. I take care to break out the summit and top of the side shoots just as the skin that encases them bursts, at which stage I have proved to my satisfaction that the article is a great delicacy, for tarts in particular—in flavor, far superior, to my taste, to the stalks.

I believe that many other useful things which have been allowed to waste, might be turned to good account. We have hitherto been wise enough to eat the blossom-heads of cauliflowers, broccoli, &c., while we have thrown away the blossom-heads, (the most delicate part) of rhubarb, and eaten the leaf-stalks.—*J. Barnes, in Lond. Gard. Chron.*

## THE BOSTON RUSSET APPLE.

*Synonymes.*—Roxburgh Russet, Putnam's Russet, Shippen's Russet, (of some)

Of the numerous varieties of Apples introduced from America, this has proved the best of any yet fruited in this country. The celebrated Newtown Pippin can be grown here in some favorable situations, but in appearance and flavor is very inferior to the imported fruit, when such can be obtained uninjured by carriage. The Boston Russet, on the contrary, ripens perfectly, and seems as hardy as most English varieties.

The flesh is yellowish, juicy, with a rich, sugary flavor, somewhat resembling that of the Ribston Pippin, or rather between the latter and that of the Nonpareil, and from this statement its excellence will be readily appreciated. The tree is of spreading growth, moderately vigorous, and a good bearer. It is suitable for dwarf training, and ought to be in every collection. In the past unfavorable season, many varieties of apple, usually good, did not acquire that degree of perfection necessary to fit them for dessert; the Boston Russet proved an exception, and it may therefore be confidently recommended for general cultivation in all parts of the country.—*R. T., in London Gard. Chron.*

[The *Roxbury Russet*, we suppose, is the apple above referred to.]

*Potatoes.*—I am happy to state that all which were packed in charred sawdust, charred old tan, as well as those packed in dry turf-ashes, are as sound and free from disease as could be wished; they are dry, mealy, and fine-flavored; but those that were pitted or banked in the usual way have rotted wholesale, and the effluvia arising from them is very unpleasant.—*Corr. Gard. Chron.*

From the Southern Cultivator.

## PHYSIOLOGY, HEALTH, &c.

Without health and strength, no man can accomplish much. These blessings depend so much on the kind and quality, and quantity of our daily food, that the following tables must be interesting to those who desire to know something of the matter.

The first table shows the comparative nutriment contained in 1000 parts of the various articles of food named. We find it in the "Anglo American":

| | *Nutriment in 1000 parts* |
|---|---|
| Wheat, | 950 |
| Nuts, | 930 |
| Peas (dry,) | 930 |
| Barley, | 920 |
| Beans (dry,) | 890 |
| Rice, | 880 |
| Bread, [what kind?] | 800 |
| Rye, | 792 |
| Oats, | 742 |
| Mutton, | 290 |
| Chicken, | 270 |
| Beef, | 260 |
| Veal, | 250 |
| Haddock, | 180 |
| White of egg, | 140 |
| Pork, | 240 |
| Codfish, | 210 |
| Plums, | 290 |
| Grapes, | 270 |
| Apricots, | 260 |
| Potatoes, | 260 |
| Cherries, | 250 |
| Peaches | 200 |
| Gooseberries, | 190 |
| Apples, | 170 |
| Pears, | 160 |
| Beets, | 148 |
| Strawberries, | 120 |
| Carrots, | 98 |
| Cabbage, | 73 |
| Milk, | 72 |
| Turnips, | 42 |
| Melons, | 30 |
| Cucumber, | 25 |

[We suspect some of our old farmer readers will be forced to laugh at some of the above statements, as we were ourself. That "*nuts*" afford 930 parts of nutriment out of 1000, and "*beef*" only 260 parts; that "*oats*" give 742 parts of nutriment out of 1000, and "*carrots*" only 98—are, we think, results which, though they *may* have been deduced from analytical experiments in the chemist's laboratory, will not find support in the *experience of practical farmers.*—N. E. Far.]

Another element of health, and consequently of strength, is the facility of digestion. From Dr. Beaumont's tables, it appears that the following articles were converted into chyle, (that is, *digested,*) in the time (hours and minutes) indicated:

[Dr. Beaumont's observations were made in the case of a soldier who had received a wound in the stomach, which in healing, left an orifice through which the process of digestion could be seen.]

| | *Time of digestion.* H. | M. |
|---|---|---|
| Rice, boiled soft, | 1 | 0 |
| Apples, sweet and ripe, | 1 | 30 |
| Sago, boiled, | 1 | 45 |
| Tapioca, barley, stale bread, raw cabbage with vinegar, boiled milk, and bread and milk cold, | 2 | 0 |

| | H. | M. |
|---|---|---|
| Potatoes roasted, parsnips boiled, | 2 | 30 |
| Custard, | 2 | 45 |
| Apple dumpling, | 3 | 0 |
| Corn bread baked, carrots boiled, | 3 | 15 |
| Potatoes and turnips, boiled; butter, cheese | 3 | 30 |
| Tripe and pigs' feet, | 1 | 0 |
| Venison, | 1 | 35 |
| Oysters raw, eggs raw, | 2 | 3 |
| Turkey and goose, | 2 | 30 |
| Eggs soft boiled, beef and mutton roasted or boiled, | 3 | 0 |
| Boiled fresh pork, stewed oysters, eggs hard boiled or fried, | 3 | 30 |
| Domestic fowls, | 4 | 0 |
| Wild fowls, | 4 | 30 |
| Veal roasted, salted pork and beef, | 5 | 30 |

We cannot close this article better than by copying the following rules about diet, &c., given by Dr. Beaumont, of the U. S. Army:

1. Bulk, or food possessing a due proportion of innutricious matter, is best calculated to preserve the permanent welfare of the organs of digestion, and the general health of the system.

2. The food should be plainly and simply prepared, with no other seasoning than a little salt, or occasionally a little vinegar.

3. Full and deliberate mastication, or chewing, is of great importance.

4. Swallowing the food slowly, or in small quantities, and at short intervals, is very necessary.

5. A quantity not exceeding the real wants of the stomach, is of prime importance to health.

6. Solid aliment, thoroughly masticated, is far more salutary than soups, broth, &c.

7. Fat meat, butter, and oily substances of every kind, are difficult of digestion, offensive to the stomach, and tend to derange that organ and induce disease.

8. Spices, pepper, stimulating and heating condiments of every kind, retard digestion and injure the stomach.

## THEORY AND PRACTICE.

A lawyer of experience, made the remark, "that more law was usually acquired in one years' practice, than in five of study." And this is as true in farming as in law. It is said, also, that "the best of theorists are not apt to be the best of practisers." Those who fail at the bar are sometimes the best of elementary writers or reporters; and sometimes those who are good at essays on farming—full of general principles, and wise in the chemistry of agriculture, make but sorry crops; just as some of the most charming "blue stockings," who are bewitching with a pen, are poor hands at mending a coat or making a pudding.

Those who farm in theory, may be likened to the men of genius whom the King of Prussia once kept around him, whose business was to suggest schemes of improvement, from which a selection was made of such as were deemed practical, and within the means of the State to execute.

Taking the works upon agriculture now in existence, a most valuable fund of knowledge is found, and perhaps the young farmer cannot spend a few dollars with so much advantage in any other way as in the purchase of these books; but experience alone can make the knowledge they contain available: there must be judgment in the application of the experience of others. Some there are who turn their backs upon book knowledge, as they term it, and confine themselves to practice alone, but their very practice is mostly learned from others—it is a sort of hereditary theory from father to son.

Many quite clever, off-handed lawyers have been produced by attending courts; but the ornaments to the profession—its brilliant lights—(a Marshall, a Story, a Webster and a Choate, for example)—have ever been those who first laid the foundation of their knowledge deep in the theory and elementary principles, and then applied those principles with sound judgment in practice.

Theory may further be considered as the poetry of the science, and practice as the plain prose of agriculture; and the Theorist, like the Poet, where there is but theory, has rather a spare crop and a lean diet. So half the pleasure, which is more than money-wealth to the farmer, is never felt by him who is all practice, no fancy, no eye for the beauties and blossoms of spring, who does not sympathize with the joyous birds, and who never stoops to pluck a flower from the verdant earth.—*Far. Monthly Vis.*

## ROOTS FOR CATTLE.

J. Frost, of Eliot, Me., in the Boston Cultivator, says: "We have practiced for many years the raising of English turnips, ruta bagas and carrots for cattle. We have stall-fed beef cattle on turnips, ruta bagas and hay, and made good beef, not allowing them to drink once a week; and we have never discovered any bad effects, either in appetite or on the system. We have fed them to cows for months, and have found no bad effects, excepting in the taste of the milk, by the feed of flat turnips. Sheep can be fed with them before yeaning with good effect. We have fed them in a decayed state to cattle, and have never discovered they had any effect on the system or appetite of cattle, otherwise than to make them more hearty to eat dry feed. Our experience has led us to value carrots the highest for stock of all kinds of roots. Cows fed on hay and carrots, will produce as much, and as good milk, as when fed on grass. Carrots fed to horses with dry feed, are worth as much as oats, feeding alternately, one day with carrots and one with oats."

[We envy the success, or good luck, of those farmers, who, like the writer of the above, are enabled to get "as *much and as good* milk" from their cows on a feed of "carrots and hay," in winter, as they get from them on grass in summer,—a result, which, though we have often seen *in print*, we have never been able to realize *in practice*. We prize carrots highly, however, and know them to be as good as any root for stock, swine excepted, for which we believe *parsnips* to be preferable.]

## HINTS ON TRANSPLANTING FLOWERS AND TREES.

Since writing the last paper on this subject, I have met with two good illustrations of what I have said respecting the manner in which roots in pots will perform their revolutions round the sides of their contracted dwellings; and as the subject is one of great practical importance, I will relate the particulars. Two years ago I purchased a Wistaria sinensis from a nursery, and turned it out of the pot into a situation which I expected would have proved highly favorable to its rapid growth, but to my surprise and disappointment, two summers have passed without its advancing an inch, although still alive. As the plant was surrounded by others which grew well in the same soil and situation, I concluded there must be something wrong at the roots, and on taking up the plant, I found them coiled up in a very cylindrical form, just as they left the pot, only much enlarged, leaving no doubt of the cause of the stunted growth I complained of. I have disentangled the roots, and planted it afresh, and have no doubt I shall now meet with success.

The other instance was of a similar charcter. I stuck a number of permanent roses in pots, three years ago, and turned them out in their permanent situations when very small. On taking up one which had grown but little, I found the same phenomena as exhibited by the Wistaria. These instances convey a lesson which is taught theoretically in all good treatises on gardening, but which is liable to be neglected in practice—that in planting from pots, the mould should be shaken from the roots, and the latter arranged properly.

The first thing to attend to in planting trees and shrubs, is trenching the land, to the depth say, of 2 feet to 30 inches. The digging must extend much beyond the hole necessary for admitting the roots of the tree; for roots encompassed by a soil which has not been disturbed for centuries, will not ramify, but will be similarly situated with those in pots.

Trees and shrubs should always be planted high, to counteract the evils arising from unsuitable subsoils, and to allow the air to get at the roots. In transplanting, care should be taken to preserve the bunches of fibres which are too often torn from the stronger roots. It is to be lamented, that even in nurseries too little attention is given to this matter, for we often see trees sent out with only a strong stick of old root attached, all that was really valuable having been cut or rent away.

Having planted as directed, firmly tread down, and your work is done, always remembering to keep a watch as to drought during the first spring and summer.—*H. B., in Lond. Gard. Chron.*

*Experiment in Potato Planting.*—Plow in a good coat of manure, scoop out and plant single eyes 6 inches apart, and leave 18 inches between the rows. The produce I have realized from the above mode, has been 226 three-bushel sacks to the acre. The experiment I made was as follows: I planted four lots in one field:

The 1st, with two quarters of a potato,
" 2d, with one quarter "
" 3d, with two eyes "
" 4th, with one eye "

The fourth lot produced just double the quantity of the first.—*C. Talmage, in Gard. Chron.*

[In some experiments in this country, eyes of potatoes have given good crops, and in others they have failed. We think it would be hazardous to use eyes for seed, on anything like a large scale. We should think it no trifling job to "scoop out" eyes from the tubers sufficient to seed an acre or two, even were the plan advisable. It might be argued, however, that the *saving* thus effected in the seed—the greater portion of the potato being left for use as food—would compensate for the extra labor required in *gouging* out the eyes—an art better understood by Kentucky pugilists, than by New England farmers.]

A correspondent of the Gardeners' Chronicle, says he has kept his gooseberry bushes free from the caterpillar, for 14 years, by syringing them well with hot water, and then strewing *under* them a small quantity of hot lime, and patting the ground with the back of a shovel: heats the water to 150°

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, April 29, 1846.

## FUNGUS NOT THE CAUSE OF THE POTATO MALADY.

*To the Editor of the N. E. Farmer:*

Sir—I have noticed in your columns several treatises and articles, original and selected, intended to show the probability of *fungus* being the true cause of the extensive and disastrous affection of the potato crop. I have not had experience or observation that would justify me in attacking this theory, admitting that I considered it *clearly* fallacious, which I do not; but I would ask of you the insertion of the subjoined views of another on the subject, who seems qualified to speak "by authority." Truth is the sole object of our pursuit, and it is immaterial by whom it is discovered, or in what theory it is embraced, if it be found by some one and established beyond question.

Very respectfully, yours,

"Audi Alteram Partem."

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[From the London Gardeners' Chronicle, of Feb. 28.]

Potato Gangrene.—In the "Gardener's Almanac," I have thus described the phenomena of this disease: "Immediately after the rains and morning frosts of early August, the stems began to decay, but the weather continuing wet, instead of their putrefaction being dry, the putrefaction was moist, and the smell attendant upon it precisely that evolved during the decay of dead potato haulm (tops) partly under water. The stems decayed, whilst the fibres connecting the tubers with them, were fresh and juicy—the putrefaction spread along these, the ichor being absorbed by their still energetic vessels, and passing into the still immature and unusually juicy tubers, imparted to them the gangrene; the infection being first apparent at the end nearest the connecting fibre, spreading gradually throughout the liber of the tuber, rendering it brown like a decayed apple, and lastly, causing the decay of its interior portion. Previously to the final decay, the increased specific gravity of the potato is remarkable, amounting to one third more than that of a healthy tuber; an increase caused by its greater amount of water. When boiled it becomes black; but when submitted to a dry heat of about 200°, it rapidly loses moisture, and the progress of the ulceration is retarded, if not entirely stopped."

Since the above description was penned, I have had abundant opportunity of examining potatoes affected with the disease, and of pursing numerous experiments, every one of which confirms my opinion that the disease *is purely a gangrene, or ulceration of the tuber*, and that the fungi and insects which supervene, are merely sequents—customary sequents—of the disease.

In every instance, except where the disease is imparted by inoculation or contact, it first makes its appearance at the end whereby it is connected with the parent stem. If the cause of the disease had been a fungus, it seems apparent that its spores would occasionally have vegetated first, or simultaneously, in other parts of the tubers than that in most immediate contact with the stem. Again, if the cause was a fungus, then the application of any substance destructive of the fungi tribe, would be effectually remedial. Now, common salt is a substance possessing that destructive power. It will reduce the common mushroom, and other fungi, to little more than a liquid form, in a very short space of time; yet *it has no effect in preventing the decay of the potato infected with the disease.* I have washed the diseased tubers with brine, and have buried them in salt, but the gangrene still proceeded.

These are facts apparently irreconcilable with the opinion that the disease is caused by a parasitical fungus.

But if my observations are correct, I have *absolute proof* that the fungus appears only *after the disease has made considerable progress*, and decomposition has considerably advanced. I have examined the outside and the liber of a tuber in the early stages of its disease, but have never succeeded in finding a single fungus, nor even the appearance of its hyphasma or rootlets among the diseased cells.

Then, again, I have taken the putrid matter from a tuber in which the disease was far advanced, and have introduced it into an extensive wound freshly made in a healthy potato, and the latter has speedily become infected, though in the putrid matter introduced, there was no appearance of fungi. Even when common salt was mixed with the putrid matter previously to introduction, for the purpose of destroying any fungi it might contain, still the disease was imparted by the inoculation.

At present, therefore, my opinion as to the nature of the disease, remains unshaken. I think it an *ulceration*, attended with all the usual phenomena of vegetable putrefaction; and, among others, that of engendering matter peculiarly favored by the lower orders of fungi. As the potato arrives at the last stages of decomposition, not only is the botrytis (a fungus) found upon it, but mucor (slimy liquor) abundantly, if exposed to the air in darkness.

I am equally unshaken in the opinion that the gangrene was occasioned by the excessive rains and reduced temperature of early August. It matters nothing that the temperature and fall of rain, during the whole of 1845, did not much differ from that on an average of years. The question is, was there not generally an excess of rain, and an unusually low reduction of temperature at the beginning of August, when the disease made its prominent appearance? In all the meteorological tables I have consulted, this was the case.—*G. W. Johnson.*

☞While we very willingly give place to the foregoing article, opposing the belief that fungus is the cause of the potato disease, we must express our conviction that, whatever be the *nature* of the affection in the potato, as it has here prevailed, this affection *was not*, in *this* country, caused either by the combined or separate circumstances of "excessive rains" or "reduced temperature" at any period; for, (we repeat again,) the disease has visited our crops in years and in sections, where no such circumstances as the two above specified were prevalent.—Ed.

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☞This month has been very remarkable for warm and dry weather. We do not now remember an April of any previous year, that in these respects, would match the present. But people who keep no record of the seasons, are, we know, very apt to be mistaken in their opinions of the character of the season that *is*, as compared with those of preceding years. Vegetation generally has got a more than usual start, but rain is much needed, particularly for grass. What *May* will bring, cannot be foretold, and it is vain to prognosticate; but be it whatever it may, it cannot (as they say in Congress) be "*dodged*." Let the farmer perform *his* part faithfully, and trust the issue to Heaven.

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☞The inquiries concerning the culture, &c. of the Jerusalem Artichoke, we will answer as fully as we can in our next.

## MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*Saturday, April 25, 1846.*

Flowers.—From Messrs Winship, branches of Pyrus Japonica, in full bloom; scarlet and white varieties.

From John A. Kenrick, flowers of the Magnolia conspicua, taken from a tree on which were more than a thousand flowers.

From Hovey & Co, Phlox Drummondii, in variety; fine Carnations and Hyacinths.

From Walker & Co, Beauty of the Prairie Rose, in bloom, and two fine bouquets.

From Dr T. W. Harris, Cambridge, Viola pedada, and var. velutina, the latter very beautiful: the two upper petals a fine velvety purple; found wild near Baltimore.

For the Committee, Joseph Breck.

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Fruit.—From Mr Mathews, Cornish, Vt., Pippin apple, very delicate, tender flesh, and fine flavor.

From Mr Geo. Brown, Shaddocks, Citrons, and Forbidden Fruit, taken from trees while on board bark Solomon Piper, from Jamaica, W. I., all splendid specimens.

For the Committee, D. Haggerston.

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Vegetables.—From Orr N. Towne, six very large Cucumbers. For the Committee,

A. D. Williams, Jr., *Chm'n.*

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☞NOTICE—*Exhibition of Hyacinths.*—In consequence of the very warm and dry weather, Hyacinths are unusually forward. The Exhibition for Premiums will take place May 2d, instead of May 9th.

J. Breck, *Chm'n Flower Com.*

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☞The following table, given in the Farmers' Dictionary, shows the quantity of seed usually sown to the acre *(broadcast)* in England:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Wheat, | | 2½ to 3½ bush. |
| Oats, | | 4 to 6 do. |
| Barley, | | 3 to 4 do. |
| Rye, | | 2½ to 3½ do. |
| Peas, | | 3½ to 4½ do. |
| Buckwheat, | | 2 to 2½ do. |
| Clover, red | | 12 to 16 lbs. |
| —— white, | Mixed. | 3 to 4 " |
| Trefoil, | Mixed. | 2 " |
| Red clover, | Mixed. | 2 " |
| Rye grass, | | 1 peck. |
| Turnips, | | 2 to 3 lbs. |

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Lucky Fellow.—A Norfolk (Va.) editor acknowledges the present of a box of delicious strawberries. No one as yet has sent *us* the present of even a solitary cucumber. We don't know what may be forthcoming, however.

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*Indian Corn.*—A Liverpool paper received by the last arrival, says: "This article continues to arrive in great quantities in the principal ports of this country, and has already become one of great consumption. In Liverpool, we have several flour dealers and bakers who put forth Indian corn, Indian flour, and bread made of Indian flour, as prominent articles of sale."

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*Charity.*—How noiselessly the snow comes down. You see it, feel it, but never hear it. So charity dispenses her blessings. A person who does good out of pure benevolence, never spreads it abroad with his tongue, nor makes it public through a newspaper.—*Selected.*

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☞The new wheat crop is represented to be quite promising.

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☞See advertisement of choice vegetable seeds.

## THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietor of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure to the week ending April 26.

| April. 1846. | 7 A M. | 12, M. | 5, P. M. | Wind. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Monday, 20 | 41 | 61 | 56 | N. W. |
| Tuesday, 21 | 52 | 82 | 76 | N. W. |
| Wednesday, 22 | 48 | 59 | 52 | E. |
| Thursday, 23 | 48 | 71 | 62 | E. |
| Friday, 24 | 56 | 79 | 70 | N. E. |
| Saturday, 25 | 36 | 42 | 38 | E. |
| Sunday, 26 | 39 | 54 | 55 | N. W. |

## BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, April 27, 1846.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 530 Beef Cattle, 25 pairs Working Oxen, 30 Cows and Calves, 200 Sheep and 2425 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Prices have further declined and we reduce our quotations, viz: Extra $5,75. First quality 5,50. Second quality $5,00 a $5,25. Third quality $4,25 a $5,00. A yoke or two brought a trifle more than our highest quotations.

*Working Oxen.*—Sales $66. $70, $85, $90 and $125.

*Cows and Calves.* Sales $20, $25, $26, $28 and $32.

*Sheep.*—Sales from $3,75 to $4,25.

*Swine.*—Lots to peddle 4 1-2 and 5 1-2. Lot to close 4 and 5. Old Hogs, 3 3-4, 4, 4 1-4 and 4 1-2. At retail from 5 to 6 1-2.

## WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

*Corrected with great care, weekly.*

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $0 00 a 2 50 per bushel. Red Top 65 to 70 cents. Clover—Northern, 11 to 11½c.—Southern, 10 a 00 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed. $2 25 a 2 50 per bushel. Millet, 1 75 to 2 00.

GRAIN. The Grain business of the last week was very trifling, and the only sales of Corn were small lots for consumption.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 00 a 00—Southern, round yellow, 68 a 68—Southern flat yellow, 66 a 67—do. do. white 67 a 68—do New Orleans, 63 a 65—Barley 00 a 00—Rye, Northern, 80 a 00—do. Southern, 00 a 00—Oats Southern, 42 a 44—Northern do. 43 to 50—Beans, per bushel 1 25 a 1 37.—Shorts, per double bush. 40 a 60—Bran, 30 a 40.

FLOUR. The market has been very unsettled during the week. A few have pressed sales, but generally large holders have preferred to wait a more settled state of things.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. new, $5 12 a 0 00—do. wharf, $5 00 a 0 00—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $5 00 a 0 00—Fredericksburg, low l'd new $0 00 a 5 00—Alexandria, wharf, 5 00 a 0 00—Georgetown, $0 00 a 5 12—Extra do. 0 00 a 0 00—Richmond Canal, $5 00 a 5 12—do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, City, $0 00 a 0 00—do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $5 37 a 5 50—do fancy brands, $5 62½ a 5 87—Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $5 00 a 5 25. Rye, $3 37 a 4 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $3 50 a 0 00.

PROVISIONS. There has been during the week past a steady demand for most descriptions.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $8 50 a 9 00—Navy—$7 50 a 8 50.—No. 1, $0 00 a 0 00—do Prime $5 87 a 6 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $13 00 a 13 25—do Clear $12 50 a 13 00 do. Mess, $11 00 a 11 50—do Prime $10 00 a 10 23—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00—Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 00 a 00—do store. uninspected, 8 a 10—do dairy, 00 cts. a 00—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 7 a 7½—do South and Western, 6½ a 6—Hams, Boston, 7½ a 8—Southern and Western, 7 a 7½—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal 4 a 6—do new milk, 7 a 0.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad. val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

The prices of all descriptions remain unaltered; there has been an active demand for fleece Wool during the week past.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 40 a 41 c.—American full blood, do 37 a 38—Do. 3-4 do 32 a 33—Do. 1-2 do 30 a 31 -1-4 and common do 27 a 29—Smyrna Sheep, washed, 18 a 20—Do. unwashed, 10 a 14—Bengasi do 6 a 00—Saxony, clean, 12—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 13—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 33 a 36—No. 1 do. do. do. 27 a 30—No. 2 do do do 18 a 20—No. 3 do do do 14 a 16.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1844, lb. 20 a 00; 2d do 00 a 00.

HAY, 20 to 00 per ton—Eastern Screwed $15 to 16.

EGGS, 15 to 18.


## KENRICK'S NURSERIES,

NONANTUM HILL, NEWTON, NEAR BOSTON.

The subscriber is now ready to receive and devote his attention to all orders, with the aid of two most able and efficient men to co-operate, who have been 9 years at this establishment.

A splendid assortment of Pear Trees are daily expected from France, by the Moselle, from a first rate source, of Vitry.

Fruit, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Green House Plants, &c &c. Descriptive Catalogues will be sent gratis to all who apply.

Apple, Pear Plum, Cherry, Peach and Nectarine Trees, a great variety of all superior kinds; Grape Vines, Gooseberries, Franconia and other Raspberries, Currants, Strawberries, &c.

Ornamental Trees of the most beautiful hardy kinds, including Limes or Lindens, Sycamores—Tyrol or Scotch Larch, Silver Leaved Abele, Horse Chestnuts, Elms, Weeping Willows, Magnolia or Umbrella Tree, Tulip Tree, Laburnum, Mountain Ash, Purple Beech and Evergreen Trees, &c. Shrubs, Everblooming Roses, Pæonies, Dahlias, &c Also Cactuses, Verbennas, and other most showy Green House Plants.

15,000 Peach Trees, of the most superior and productive kinds, for orchards for supply of our markets.

1,500 Vines raised in pots from single eyes, of the Black Hamburg and other superior Grapes, including several new kinds, from the London Horticultural Society, recorded last spring.

Written orders addressed by mail to the subscriber will be promptly executed, and Trees and Plants will be well packed in mats and moss, when ordered for distant places, and delivered at the depot or shipped in Boston, without charge for transportation to the city. Orders left with Messrs. JOSEPH BRECK & CO., at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 52 North Market street, Boston; John G Locke, Lowell, or Eliphalet Wheeler, Framingham, shall receive the same prompt attention.

All orders left with the several authorized agents in Boston, should be directed particularly to

WILLIAM KENRICK.

Nonantum Hill, Newton, March 16. eptM17.

## Howard's Improved Easy Draught Plows.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twenty-seven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

## FRENCH PEAR TREES

On Quince Stocks. The subscribers have just received a large assortment of French, Pear and other Trees, in first rate order, including many of the most esteemed varieties, for sale at Breck & Co's Agricultural Warehouse, at very moderate prices

Also, Pears on Pear Stocks, and every other Tree and Shrub to be found in the Catalogue.

April 14. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

## NEW STRAWBERRY.

The subscribers have for sale, 1000 plants of Prince *ALICE MAUD STRAWBERRY,* a large and fine variety of superior flavor, ten days earlier than any other variety cultivated in England. It has been proved as a most excellent and hardy variety, having been fully tested in our climate. Price $2 per doz. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

## CLIMBING ROSES.

The subscribers have for sale strong Plants of the following superb Climbing Roses—

Queen of the Prairies;
Baltimore Belle;
Rosa rubifolia superba.

Also, Cloth of Gold and La Reine Roses, with many other new and choice varieties. JOS. BRECK & CO.

April 22, 1846.

## FRESH GARDEN SEEDS.

For sale at Nos. 51 and 52 North Market street, (up stairs,) an extensive assortment of

*GARDEN, FIELD AND FLOWER SEEDS, viz.*

EARLY PEAS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Cedo Nulli. | Prince Albert. |
| Smith's Early. | Bishop's Dwarf. |
| Early Frame. | Blue Imperial, and many |
| Dwarf Marrowfat. | other fine varieties. |

MELONS, OF SUPERIOR SORTS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Netted Cantaloupe, | Persian. |
| Black Rock. | Nutmeg. |
| Minorca. | Green Citron, &c. |
| Skillman's Fine Rock. | |

Cuthill's Early Frame Cucumber, White Spine, &c.

Seymour's White Solid Celery—Large Asiatic Cauliflower.

TOMATOES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Large Red. | Cherry, or Grape, red and |
| Large Yellow. | yellow, &c. |
| Pear Shaped. | |

Broccoli, of various sorts—Early Cabbages, and every variety of Seed for the Garden.

March 18. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

## NEW AND CHOICE VEGETABLE SEEDS.

The subscribers have just received the following Choice *VEGETABLE SEEDS,* viz:

Bailey's Superb White Solid Celery;
Do. do. Red do.;
New Transparent Yellow Endive;
Scandex Bulbosa, or Turnip rooted Chervil, (a delicious vegetable;)
German Greens, (beautifully curled;)
Couve Touchardа, (a delicious vegetable;)
Weeden's prize Cucumber, 25 cents each paper;
Cuthill's improved black Spined do. do.
Cappell's Cream Brocoli;
Cheltenham do.; Hardy Cape do.;
Royal Queen Cabbage;
Warner's Incomparable do.;
Royal Dwarf do.;
Wellington do.;
Imperial do.;
Vanach do.; Early Hope, &c.;
British Queen Pea;
Woodford's Prolific do.;
Early Victoria do.;
Green Imperial;
Matchless Marrowfat;
Royal green Marrow;
Dancer's Monastery;
Warner's Early Emperor,—with many other choice varieties. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, April 28, 1846.

## SPRUCE POLES.

1000 dozen suitable for Rustic Fences;
1000 dozen Dahlia and Bean Poles;
2000 Spruce Poles 10 to 30 feet in length;

For sale by

MOSES FRENCH, jr. Maine Wharf,
Broad Street, near the bottom of Summer street.

March 29, 1846. 3m.

## FULL BLOODED CHINA FOWLS.

For Sale 10 pairs full blooded China Fowls, the males when dressed will weigh 9 or 10 pounds. Apply to

JOS. BRECK & CO.

March 29. Agricultural Warehouse, Boston.

## REINE CLAUDE DE BAVAY PLUMS.

A few Trees of this new and superb variety of Plum, for sale by the subscribers at $2 each. J. BRECK & CO.

April 14

## PAULINA IMPERIALIS.

For sale by the subscribers, a few Plants of this superb Ornamental Tree at $2 each. J BRECK & CO

## Guano! Guano!

The subscribers have for sale *GUANO,* of various qualities, from 37½ to $50 per ton, viz: 100 tons first quality of Peruvian, 100 do. do. do. Ichaboe, 100 do. second do. do.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,
N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, (up stairs.) Boston.

April 8.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

*A Good Hit for a Youth.*—An old chap in Connecticut, who was one of the most niggardly men known in that part of the country, carried on the blacksmithing business very extensively, and as is generally the case in that State, boarded all of his hands And to show he envied the men and boys what they eat, he would have a bowl of bean soup served up for himself to cool, while that for the hands was served up in a large pan boiling hot.

This old fellow had an apprentice who was so unlucky as to get his fingers burnt quite frequently among the hot irons in the shop. One day the old man scolded him severely for being so careless.

"How can I tell," said the boy, "if the iron is hot, unless it is red?"

"Spit on it; and if it does n't hiss, it wont burn," replied the old boss.

In a day or two after, the old man sent the boy to see if his soup was cool. The boy went in and spat in the bowl: of course the soup did not hiss. He went back and told the boss his soup was cool.

"Dinner!" cried he.

All hands were soon at the table, and the old man having seated himself at the head, forthwith took a large spoonful of the boiling hot soup in his mouth.

"Good heavens!" cried he, in the greatest rage, "what did you tell me that lie for, you young rascal?"

"I did n't lie," said the boy, very innocently. "You told me I should spit on a thing to find if it was hot; so I spit in the bowl, and as the soup did n't hiss, I thought it must be cool."

Judge of the effect on the jours. That boy never afterwards wanted friends among the journeymen.—*Exch. pap.*

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Scriggins was an inveterate tobacco-chewer. Pettingill, meeting him one morning, and observing the huge quid in his mouth, inquired for what purpose he used the weed. "For company sake," replied S. "Don 't you, in candor, think it a *filthy* thing?" asked P. "Well—(spirting a jet of juice)—I cant say—(spirt)—but that—(spirt)—I think *it is*." "And don 't you believe the old saying," said P., "that a man is known *by the company he keeps?*" Scriggins took the application, and, discharging his 'old soger,' unceremoniously sloped, and was never afterwards seen with a quid in his mouth.—*Sawville Circular.*

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"Peter," said the schoolmarm, "of what fruit is cider made?"

"Don't know."

"Why, you stupid boy: what did you get when you robbed widow Coffin's orchard?"

"I got a licking."

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An *honest* old Quaker having sold a blind horse to a jockey, said to him, after the bargain was closed, "Dost thou see any faults in the horse, friend?" "No," replied the purchaser. "Neither will he ever *see* any in thee," returned the Quaker.

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"Pompey," said a good-humored master to his slave, "I did not know you had a whipping last week." "Did n't you, massa? Lor! I knew it at de berry time of it."

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A sexton's wife said she could n't afford a new gown, for her husband had n't buried *a living soul* for three months.


### SUPERB VARIETIES OF FLOWER SEEDS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. *Seedsmen and Florists*, No. 51 and 52 North Market street, (up stairs) have now received a full supply of fresh *FLOWER SEEDS* from the most celebrated Florists of Europe, from their own garden in Brighton and from other sources, of the most select varieties—ever offered in this country. Special attention has been given by the subscribers in long practice, in improving the numerous varieties of hardy Flowers, which have so long been the object of their cultivation and they feel assured that the seeds saved by themselves, cannot be surpassed by any other growers in the country.

Among some of the choice seeds are the following, viz:

| | |
|---|---|
| Extra fine Verbena seeds, raised by an amateur in this country, from a bed of seedling, of 40 different varieties of every color and shade, price per package, | 25 |
| Extra fine Double Picotee and Carnation Pink seed, saved from a bed of 50 fine double varieties, (Breck & Co's. best.) | 25 |
| Extra Double Carnation seed from fine named Florists Flowers (imported.) | 25 |
| Extra double Picotee Pink seed from fine named double Flowers (imported) | 25 |
| Fine Carnation and Picotee Pink seed, | 12½ |
| Extra Double Florists Pink seed, from choice named Flowers (imported) | 25 |
| Double Chinese Imperial Pink seed, raised in this country from a bed of 50 or more fine varieties, | 12 |
| Phlox Drummondii, mixed colors, embracing scarlet, crimson, purple, rose, pink, and variegated varieties, | 12½ |
| Calceolarias, mixed varieties, from fine named sorts, | 25 |
| Pansy seed, from a collection of named sorts, | 25 |
| Geraniums, from a great variety of fine named sorts, | 25 |
| Petunia seed, from a great variety of fine mixed, variegated and other sorts, | 12½ |
| Double Hollyhock seed, in boxes containing sixteen distinct varieties, | 75 |
| German Asters, of the most improved and splendid sorts, in boxes of 12 beautiful varieties, | 75 |
| Annual and perennial Lupins, in boxes, containing 16 distinct species and varieties, many of them most superb, | 75 |
| Goodetias and Œnotheras in boxes, 10 best varieties and species, | 50 |
| Russian and other ten week stock, 20 distinct varieties, | 1,00 |
| Ditto 10 ditto ditto | 50 |
| A collection of 20 best varieties of Annual Flower seeds, | 1,00 |
| Ditto 40 varieties of Annual and Perennial Flower seeds, | 2,00 |
| Boxes containing a choice collection of 100 varieties of Annual and Perennial Flower seeds, | 4,00 |
| Polyanthus seed from fine named sorts, per package, | 25 |
| Auricula ditto | 25 |
| Didiscus cœrulea, | 12½ |
| Brachycome Iberidifolia, | 25 |
| Mimulus—8 varieties, | 75 |
| Do, single paper, | 12½ |
| Double Balsams, 10 superb varieties, | 62½ |
| Four varieties fine Candytuft, | 25 |
| Six " sweet Peas, | 37 |
| Four " wall Flower, | 25 |
| Four " Schizanthus, | 25 |

Also, other fine varieties, too numerous to mention, embracing a rare collection of more than 400 varieties. Catalogues may be had on application.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

### FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have for sale a large assortment of choice *FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES*, which they offer to the public at reasonable rates. As they are Agents for many of the best Nurseries and Gardens in the vicinity of the city, they can execute any order that they may be favored with. From their own Nurseries they can furnish the best varieties of Apple, Pear, Cherry, Plum, Peach, Apricot, Nectarine, Quince, Grape, Gooseberry, Currants, &c. Also, Ornamental Plants, of every description.

Boston, March 11, 1846.

### TRACE CHAINS, &c.

Just received per ship "Sunbeam," from Liverpool, a large assortment of Fence, Trace, Halter and Dog CHAINS, of every description.

Also, per "Mary Ann," from Liverpool, a large assortment of splendid *GARDEN SHEARS, FLOWER GATHERERS, BRIAR HOOKS, NORWAY RAG STONES*, &c. and

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.
March 18. No. 51 and 52 N. Market street.

### GUANO.

The cargo of the ship TALMA, from Madagas Island, will be sold in any quantity desired, put up in bags or barrels, or in bulk, if preferred. The analysis of this cargo by J. E. TESCHEMACHER, Esq., can be seen by applying to
March 18. 8w MAGOUN & SON, 66 State street.

### HOWARD'S PREMIUM SUBSOIL PLOWS.

The subsoil Plow is unquestionably the most importan agricultural implement of modern invention. It is considered by the best informed practical farmers of Great Britain and our own country, as an indispensable article in the most profitable husbandry.

These Plows are for sale, wholesale and retail by
JOSEPH BRECK & CO.
N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 & 52, North Market Street, Boston.

### MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM EAGLE PLOWS.

The subscribers have for sale at their extensive Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 & 52 N. Market street, *MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM IMPROVED EAGLE PLOWS.*

Mr. Martin's Plows combine new and important improvements adapting them to the different qualities of soil and the various modes and systems of culture His Eagle Plows, as improved, are much longer, the mouldboard landside and point, or share, all extended without any addition to the width or heel in its work; thus adapting this Plow to the more perfect turning under of the greensward, and inverting of the furrow-slice, so desirable in greensward plowing. The principle of these Plows is such, from where the furrow-slice is received upon the mouldboard to where it leaves it, that it enables the Plow to take up the furrow-slice with the greatest possible ease, bearing equally and lightly over the whole surface of the mouldboard, turning it over with the least possible bending or twisting, and preserving it flat, smooth and unbroken, laying the furrow-slices closely and compactly side by side, and creating but slight friction upon the face of the mouldboard in passing through the soil. Thus the Plow requires but very little power of draft beyond what is necessary to cut out the furrow-slice.

His castings are of a superior kind, the workmanship not inferior to any other Plows in this country, and his timber being the very best of white oak; and every farmer knows that good timber in his Plows is of the utmost importance—all of which in fact renders B. Martin's Plow the very article every farmer wants. The high character of these Plows is abundantly sustained by a continued and extended patronage, which the manufacturer hopes by his efforts and exertions to retain Being himself an experienced Plow-Maker, he will not spare any exertions in order to render his Plows a superior article.

Gentlemen are requested to call and examine these Plows before they purchase. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.
Boston, March 24.

### ESSAY ON GUANO.

For sale at Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Teschemacher's Essay on Guano.—describing its properties and the best methods of its application in Agriculture and Horticulture, with the value of importations from different localities; founded on actual analyses, and on personal experiments upon numerous kinds of trees, vegetables, flowers, &c. Price 25 cents. J. BRECK & CO.

### GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co. No. 51 North Market street.

### BOUSSINGAULT'S RURAL ECONOMY.

Boussingault's Rural Economy; Price $1,75. Downing's Book of Fruits; price $1,75. Stable Keeper's Companion; price $1,00. Also, a general assortment of *AGRICULTURAL WORKS.*

JOS. BRECK & CO.



### NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

Remittances, *not exceeding ten dollars*, at any *one time*, may be made as follows:—A subscriber owes us two or eight dollars, which he wishes to remit us. He will pay this amount to the Post Master *in his own town*, and take his *receipt* for it, as money paid him on *our* account. He will then send that *receipt*, enclosed in a letter *to us*. We pass it to the Post Master in Boston, and get the money for it. This arrangement does away with nearly the whole risk of making remittance, and puts every subscriber in possession of "suitable funds" for that purpose.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS
21 SCHOOL STREET.